

**GOVERNOR JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM**

Friday, November 3, 2006

Hello, this is Governor Jennifer Granholm.

More than 230 years ago, brave men and women stepped forward to protest a government in which they had no voice.

Those patriots were so passionate about having a voice in their own government, they were willing to fight for it.

We all know their names – George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams – so many who risked everything for democracy.

The generations who've come after those founding fathers, have had to fight on occasion to.

Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and others who fought for the rights of women at the ballot box.

Martin Luther King Jr., Medgar Evers and Rosa Parks fought for the rights of African Americans.

Today, you and I don't have to fight to make our voices heard, we just have to show up.

It's that easy, and yet too many of us fail.

We're busy. We have to work. Our kids are busy. But voting is quick, it's easy, and it is important.

In 2004, when voter turnout was considered "high," one out of every three eligible voters in Michigan didn't cast a vote for President of the United States.

I know more than 66 percent of Michigan's citizens have an opinion about who should or should not be President.

But voicing your opinion only counts at the ballot box.

On Tuesday, November 7, Michigan voters will once again have the opportunity to express their opinions about our state and our future.

The polls are open from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m.

For information about the candidates and initiatives on Tuesday's ballot, visit [www.michigan.gov/sos](http://www.michigan.gov/sos).

Read, watch, and decide ... and then make your voice heard.

Thank you for listening.